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MIDWEST INFORMATION OFFICE: Chicago, Ill.

Technical information: (312) 353-1880 • BLSInfoChicago@bls.gov • www.bls.gov/regions/midwest

Media contact: (312) 353-1138

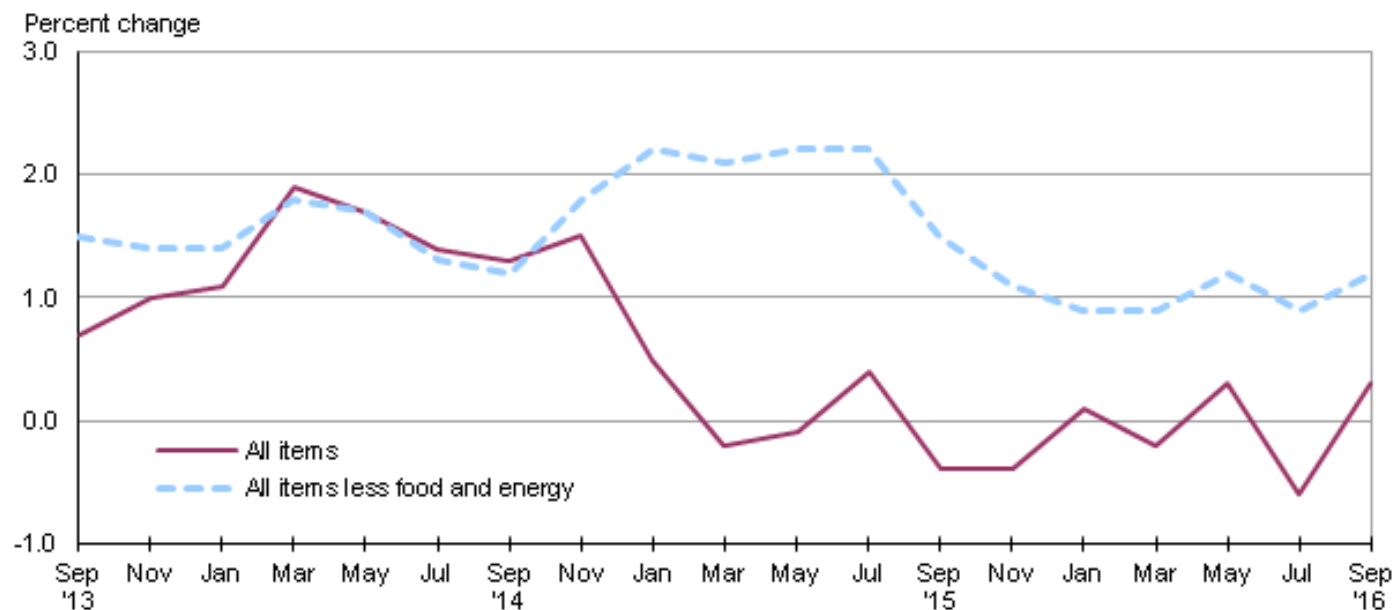
Consumer Price Index, Cleveland-Akron-Lorain — September 2016

Local prices up 0.3 percent over the year

The Cleveland-Akron, Ohio, Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) declined 0.5 percent from July to September, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Charlene Peiffer noted that energy costs fell 2.4 percent and food prices were down 0.2 percent over the bi-monthly period. The index for all items less food and energy declined 0.4 percent over the past two months. Within this last category, costs were lower for shelter, recreation, and education and communication over the two-month period. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Over the past 12 months the Cleveland area all items CPI-U rose 0.3 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A.](#)) The energy index fell 6.5 percent over the year as prices declined for gasoline and electricity. The all items less food and energy index was 1.2 percent higher over the past 12 months. (See [table 1.](#))

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Cleveland, September 2013–September 2016



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices were down 0.2 percent from July to September following a 0.3-percent increase over the previous bi-monthly period. Between the food index's two components, prices for food at home (groceries) declined 0.5 percent, while prices for food away from home (restaurant, cafeteria, and vending purchases) were up 0.3 percent over the recent two-month period.

Over the year, overall food prices were 0.9 percent lower. Prices for food at home fell 2.8 percent and food away from home prices rose 2.0 percent.

Energy

The energy index fell 2.4 percent from July to September following a 4.3-percent decrease over the previous bi-monthly period. In the current period, declines in the indexes for electricity (-6.3 percent) and gasoline (-4.8 percent) were contributing factors. Utility (piped) gas service costs were up 12.4 percent from July to September.

Over the year, the energy index fell 6.5 percent due to annual declines in the indexes for gasoline (-7.9 percent) and electricity (-8.8 percent). The utility (piped) gas service index rose 1.6 percent over the year.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy declined 0.4 percent from July to September. Among the index's components, prices were lower for shelter (-1.1 percent), recreation (-0.8 percent), and education and communication (-0.7 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy rose 1.2 percent. Annual increases in the indexes for shelter (2.7 percent), medical care (7.4 percent), and other goods and services (2.1 percent) were major contributing factors.

Table A. Cleveland CPI-U 2-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted

Month	2012		2013		2014		2015		2016	
	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month
January.....	0.4	2.1	0.2	1.5	0.3	1.1	-0.7	0.5	-0.1	0.1
March.....	1.3	2.6	0.9	1.0	1.6	1.9	0.9	-0.2	0.5	-0.2
May.....	-0.1	1.1	0.4	1.5	0.2	1.7	0.4	-0.1	0.9	0.3
July.....	0.0	1.4	0.7	2.2	0.5	1.4	0.9	0.4	0.0	-0.6
September.....	1.0	1.8	-0.4	0.7	-0.5	1.3	-1.4	-0.4	-0.5	0.3
November.....	-1.0	1.6	-0.7	1.0	-0.6	1.5	-0.5	-0.4		

The November 2016 Consumer Price Index for Cleveland is scheduled to be released on Thursday, December 15, 2016.

Technical Note

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) a CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) which covers approximately 89 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers 28 percent of the total population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, and retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and the other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. Each month, prices are collected in 87 urban areas across the country from about 6,000 housing units and approximately 24,000 retail establishments--department stores, supermarkets, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments. All taxes directly associated with the purchase and use of items are included in the index.

The index measures price changes from a designated reference date (1982-84) that equals 100.0. An increase of 16.5 percent, for example, is shown as 116.5. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows: the price of a base period "market basket" of goods and services in the CPI has risen from \$10 in 1982-84 to \$11.65. For further details see the CPI home page on the Internet at www.bls.gov/cpi and the BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 17, The Consumer Price Index, available on the Internet at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/pdf/homch17.pdf.

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights that represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Because the sample size of a local area is smaller, the local area index is subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error than the national index. In addition, local indexes are not adjusted for seasonal influences. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are quite similar. **Note: Area indexes do not measure differences in the level of prices between cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.**

The **Cleveland-Akron, Ohio** consolidated area covered in this release is comprised of Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage, and Summit Counties in Ohio.

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Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Cleveland-Akron, OH (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Jul. 2016	Aug. 2016	Sep. 2016	Sep. 2015	Jul. 2016	Aug. 2016
Expenditure category						
All items.....	222.010	-	220.963	0.3	-0.5	-
All items (1967=100).....	711.425	-	708.071	-	-	-
Food and beverages.....	249.918	-	249.587	-0.7	-0.1	-
Food.....	254.788	-	254.365	-0.9	-0.2	-
Food at home.....	243.604	243.378	242.376	-2.8	-0.5	-0.4
Food away from home.....	275.442	-	276.360	2.0	0.3	-
Alcoholic beverages.....	194.822	-	195.339	2.2	0.3	-
Housing.....	207.335	-	205.611	1.3	-0.8	-
Shelter.....	244.462	243.773	241.749	2.7	-1.1	-0.8
Rent of primary residence ⁽¹⁾	237.346	238.370	238.889	2.0	0.7	0.2
Owners' equiv. rent of residences ^{(1) (2)}	234.057	234.893	235.504	2.7	0.6	0.3
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence ^{(1) (2)}	234.057	234.893	235.504	2.7	0.6	0.3
Fuels and utilities.....	181.586	-	181.138	-3.6	-0.2	-
Household energy.....	146.071	153.189	145.590	-5.2	-0.3	-5.0
Energy services ⁽¹⁾	144.622	151.859	144.226	-5.3	-0.3	-5.0
Electricity ⁽¹⁾	165.642	165.282	155.186	-8.8	-6.3	-6.1
Utility (piped) gas service ⁽¹⁾	101.712	117.950	114.327	1.6	12.4	-3.1
Household furnishings and operations.....	115.588	-	116.120	-1.7	0.5	-
Apparel.....	132.016	-	135.889	-2.0	2.9	-
Transportation.....	193.699	-	187.475	-4.3	-3.2	-
Private transportation.....	194.320	-	187.666	-4.9	-3.4	-
Motor fuel.....	227.229	215.827	216.317	-7.9	-4.8	0.2
Gasoline (all types).....	224.835	213.527	214.008	-7.9	-4.8	0.2
Gasoline, unleaded regular ⁽³⁾	211.987	200.718	201.201	-8.9	-5.1	0.2
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{(3) (4)}	242.501	230.894	231.768	-5.9	-4.4	0.4
Gasoline, unleaded premium ⁽³⁾	245.776	237.438	237.148	-3.7	-3.5	-0.1
Medical care.....	422.788	-	438.283	7.4	3.7	-
Recreation ⁽⁵⁾	119.791	-	118.778	0.8	-0.8	-
Education and communication ⁽⁵⁾	127.222	-	126.301	0.2	-0.7	-
Other goods and services.....	409.826	-	420.835	2.1	2.7	-
Commodity and service group						
All items.....	222.010	-	220.963	0.3	-0.5	-
Commodities.....	187.142	-	187.946	-1.0	0.4	-
Commodities less food & beverages.....	155.616	-	156.970	-1.0	0.9	-
Nondurables less food & beverages.....	198.720	-	203.973	0.5	2.6	-
Durables.....	108.578	-	106.982	-3.0	-1.5	-
Services.....	257.271	-	254.478	1.2	-1.1	-
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care.....	212.805	-	210.985	-0.3	-0.9	-
All items less shelter.....	215.273	-	214.824	-0.7	-0.2	-
Commodities less food.....	157.158	-	158.471	-0.9	0.8	-
Nondurables.....	224.456	-	226.781	-0.4	1.0	-
Nondurables less food.....	198.069	-	202.851	0.4	2.4	-
Services less rent of shelter ⁽²⁾	276.664	-	273.613	-0.2	-1.1	-
Services less medical care services.....	244.720	-	241.547	0.9	-1.3	-
Energy.....	177.213	177.784	172.983	-6.5	-2.4	-2.7

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Cleveland-Akron, OH (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Jul. 2016	Aug. 2016	Sep. 2016	Sep. 2015	Jul. 2016	Aug. 2016
All items less energy.....	228.425	-	227.662	0.8	-0.3	-
All items less food and energy.....	224.018	-	223.189	1.2	-0.4	-

(1) This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

(2) Index is on a December 1982=100 base.

(3) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

(4) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

(5) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

- Data not available.

Note: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.